



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

GRANVILLE-HAVENWOODS ADVISORY COUNCIL

CYNDEE CHATHAM - CHAIR

NATASHA UPSHAW - VICE-CHAIR

Ivory Britton, Dr. Terri Brookshire, John Erdmann, Ramandeep Kaur, and Rupinder Sandhawalia

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**Legislative Liaison: Alex Highley, 414-286-8661,
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Wednesday, February 5, 2025

9:00 AM

Virtual

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1. Roll call.

Meeting convened: 9:07 AM

Members present: Cyndee Chatham, Rupinder Sandhawalia, Ramandeep Kaur, Natasha Upshaw, Terri Brookshire (9:11 AM) and Ivory Britton (9:15 AM)

Member excused: John Erdmann

2. Review and approval of the minutes of the Jan. 8th meeting.

Mr. Sandhawalia moved, seconded by Ms. Upshaw, for approval of the minutes. There were no objections.

3. Discussion and possible vote on the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility.

Ald. Taylor said GHAC has been doing a good job vetting businesses and getting quality businesses into the neighborhood.

Since there are no businesses to review, she wanted to check in with members to see if they have any questions and to provide them with accurate information. Ald. Taylor neither supports nor opposes the ICE facility, but is opposed to her inability to vet the facility and her inability to notify residents. When a federal entity comes into a district, they pretty much have free rein. She got an application for minor modifications to a building by an LLC and she learned it was to be a government building. She asked for more details on the modifications. The federal government is exempt from all zoning laws. The current facility downtown is moving into this district. The city attorney's opinion said that the federal government only needs to comply with national building and zoning codes.

Ms. Chatham asked if someone will be monitoring the exterior of the facility. Ald. Taylor noted that MPD will be monitoring as part of its regular duties and the downtown facilities had few issues. Currently half the building is anticipated to be used, so half of the rest of the building might be rented. Yesterday this item was heard at the Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee, with numerous city departments present. GSA holds the lease, which is the governing body for federal real estate; she has not been able to talk to anyone from GSA to ask if other spaces had been considered and why this site was chosen. There is no known timeline yet, but they are supposedly ready to move in. There are currently no plans to expand this facility. The building downtown will be used by MSOE. Ald. Taylor does have a list of questions she would like answered. Dr. Brookshire is concerned about potentially high activity at the sally port, which does have a privacy fence.

Ald. Taylor will stay diligent with all parties on this matter and will maintain open communication with GHAC and ICE. Her primary concern right now is to ease the anxiety of her residents and she will do that being available and communicating.

Meeting adjourned: 9:39 AM

Linda M. Elmer

Staff Assistant

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Communication relating to the 2024-2025 activities of the Granville-Havenwoods Advisory Council.

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